

Chilterns Escarpment Central CTA (Conservation Target Area)

This is the section of the escarpment between Swyncombe and Hailey.

Joint Character Area: Chilterns

Landscape Types: Wooded Estate Slopes and Valley Sides.

Geology: Chalk

Topography: A north-west facing escarpment. This section is less steep than other parts of the escarpment.

Area of CTA: 952 hectares

Biodiversity:

- **Cereal Field Margins:** These support arable wildflowers such as shepherd's needle. There is a good diversity of other arable wildflowers in this area. Good numbers of fields have been managed with the conservation headlands as part of the Countryside Stewardship scheme.
- **Farmland Birds:** A significant part of a key area for farmland birds in the Chilterns is included in this target area. Species present include corn bunting, grey partridge, linnet and skylark.
- **Other habitats:** There are a few areas of ancient woodland and one chalk grassland site at Nuffield Common.

Access: Numerous bridleways are found here including the ridgeway.

Archaeology: Grims Ditch crosses the area to the south.

Oxfordshire Biodiversity Action Plan Targets associated with this CTA:

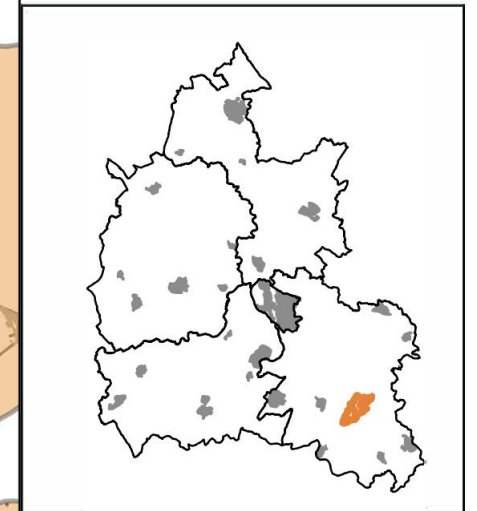
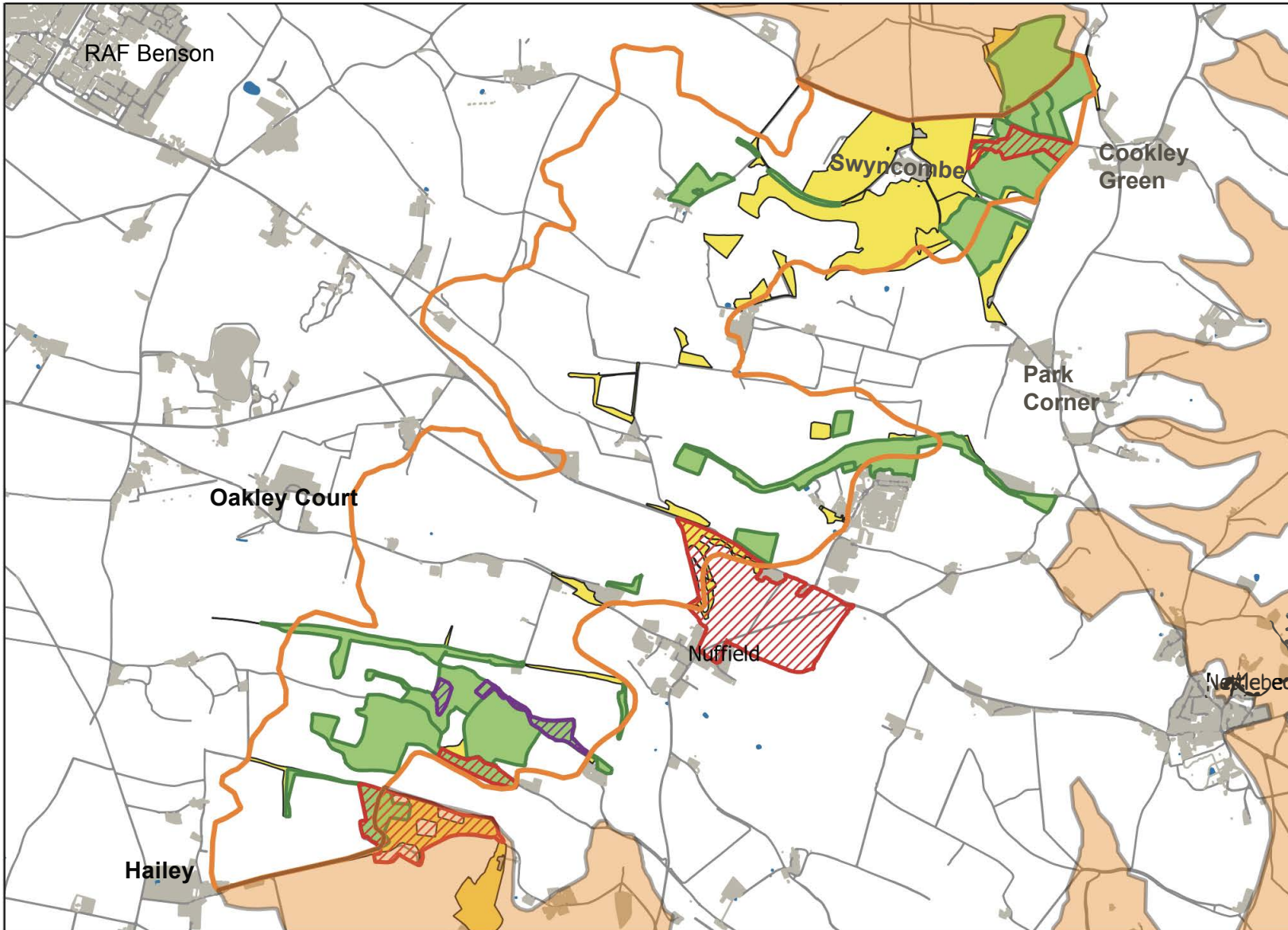
1. Arable Field Margins (and arable in-field options) – management¹ and creation (with particular emphasis on farmland birds and arable wildflowers).
2. Woodland (lowland mixed deciduous and beech and yew) – management and restoration.
3. Wood-pasture and parkland (and veteran trees) – management.

¹ "Management" implies both maintaining the quantity, and maintaining and improving the quality of existing BAP habitat and incorporates the following target definitions: "Maintaining extent" and "Achieving Condition".

Chilterns Escarpment Central Conservation Target Area



Thames Valley
Environmental Records Centre



-  CTA Boundary
-  Local Wildlife Sites
-  Proposed Local Wildlife Sites
-  Ancient Woodland
-  Priority Habitats
-  Water
-  Other CTAs

Map produced by Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre in 2019
© Crown Copyright, All rights reserved Oxfordshire County Council Licence No 100023343 (2019)
FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY, NO FURTHER COPIES MAY BE MADE

Area of BAP habitat present in CTA (from TVERC BAP Habitat GIS layer 5/2010) and 2015 BAP Habitat Targets for this CTA												
Chilterns Escarpment Central CTA	Lowland Calcareous Grassland	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	Lowland Meadows	Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh	Eutrophic Standing Waters	Lowland Fens	Reedbeds	Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland	Wet Woodland	Wood - Pasture and Parkland	Traditional Orchards
Area of BAP Habitat in CTA (ha)	0.3							33.5	54.3		62.6	
% of CTA area	0.0							3.5	5.7		6.6	
% of county resource	0.0							4.2	1.2		3.4	
2015 BAP targets (hectares)	Lowland Calcareous Grassland	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	Lowland Meadows	Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh	Eutrophic Standing Waters – No targets for 2015	Lowland Fens	Reedbeds	Native Woodland			Wood - Pasture and Parkland Targets not divided by CTA	Traditional Orchards - No targets for 2015
Maintenance (to be determined)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				-	-
Achieving Condition (to be determined)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				-	-
Restoration	59 ^a (with North and South Central)				-		-	11			-	-
Creation	61 ^a (with North and South Central)				-	-					-	-

^a Joint figure for Chilterns Escarpment CTAs: North, Central and South Central.